

***** * CONNOLLY'S BROADSIDE ON THE COURTS * *****

"You must not speak ill of our judges, young man. Don't you know they stand between us and anarchy? It is the duty of every American citizen to respect and reverence the judiciary, and why should you criticize it?"

A sober-faced man said this to Herbert Quick, the author, in Washington, not long ago, and Quick replied: "Good gracious, man! the judges are safe. The only thing we can possibly do to them is to criticize them. Please don't take from me that right."

C. P. Connolly, whose broadside against the corrupt judiciary is quoted in another column in *The Day Book* today, has set for himself the task of proving to at least a section of the American people that they need not pay reverence to dishonest judges, any more than to crooked aldermen; both are evil and deserve equal contempt. He declares that he will rip away the shams that veil corruption on the bench, polluting the whole judicial system. He promises to show that Big Business often sits on the bench in many state and federal courts, cunningly and infamously cheating the little litigant whose very faith in his flag is based upon his right of equal justice.

Connolly makes many grave charges in his article and promises many more. He says he will publish nothing that he cannot prove in court.

Connolly is to be congratulated by the American people for his courage to turn the calcium of publicity upon a department of government that is constitutionally irresponsible and in countless instances in recent times has so flagrantly and commonly abused public confidence as to deserve more than suspicious criticism—as to deserve a rigid probing, punishment for wrongs inflicted, and be placed under restraint, such as the recall system and thus compelled to respond to public opinion and enlightened policies.

If the writer succeeds in accomplishing nothing more than awakening people from the antique notion that because a lawyer has donned ermine he is above criticism and merits reverence, whether good or evil, right or wrong, a service of immeasurable good will have been rendered.

San Jose, Cal., jury has decided that a stableful of jackasses is not a disturber of the peace of society. If you ever heard a San Jose society girl manual labor a piano, you'd know why that jury

was charitable toward jackasses.

Philadelphia's area is over twice that of New York City's, but you never want to stay there twice as long.